

LOCAL MISCELLANY.

AN APOLOGY FROM THE REV. DR. FULTON; HE RETRACTS WORDS HASTILY SPOKEN AT A MEETING OF BAPTIST PREACHERS.

The Rev. Dr. H. W. Knapp presided at the regular weekly meeting of the conference of Baptist ministers, at Oliver and Henry-st., yesterday morning. Under the call for new business, the Rev. Dr. R. E. of Brooklyn, arose with a letter in his hand. His announcement that it was from the Rev. Dr. Justin D. Fulton, who was suspended from membership in the conference several weeks ago, on account of a reference which he made to the political record of Dr. G. W. Samson, caused the ministers to gather around Dr. Reid, in the expectation of hearing something interesting. Dr. Reid then read the following extract from Dr. Fulton:

"I am returning you a sketching of an essay delivered by me January 12, entitled 'The Beast of Prophecy.' I made, January 20, a reference to the political position of the author of the essay, which reference was deemed by you to be disconcerting. On January 27, I have written to you again, and you will receive the exact 'ends to which you took exception.' For this mark of justice and respect I thank you. Immediately after this a resolution was offered to suspend me from my membership in your conference. This resolution was voted down. On this motion I claimed the right to be heard; which was conceded to me by a unanimous vote, declaring that I should have fifteen minutes in which to address the conference without interruption. The resolution to suspend me was introduced in such a way and to such an extent that I found it impossible to proceed, and withdrew from the conference unheeded. After this the resolution amending my suspension was adopted. I regret this more, as I might have said then what I take pleasure in saying to you now, that, inasmuch as the words uttered by me were deemed personal and discourteous by you, I have now withdrawn."

Arthur Hyatt, Stewart and Keenan, constituting the Law Committee of the Board of Aldermen, met yesterday to hear statements from Elliott E. Shepard and E. B. Shafer, the commissioners appointed to codify the city ordinances, regarding the differences between them, and the reasons why they had not agreed upon a report. Mr. Shepard said there was no way to tell what the municipal laws of the city were. The matter had been still further complicated by the passage of new laws relating to the city, creating new commissions and taking away the larger part of the powers of the Board of Aldermen. He said it was impossible to procure copies of all existing ordinances; that he paid \$30 for a copy of the ordinances of 1866, and that those of 1877 were not in print. He thought the only way to arrange the differences between himself and Mr. Shafer would be for Mr. Shafer to resign.

Mr. Shafer said he was the first to originate this codification, by a suggestion sent to the Board of Aldermen.

Mr. Francis L. Stetson and Elliott E. Shepard were appointed commissioners March 18, 1875; but in January, 1877, they had made no report, when one was called for by the Board of Aldermen. Two reports then were sent in, and Mr. Stetson soon afterwards, because he could not agree with his associate. Mr. (Shad) was then appointed by Mayor Sly, and soon after, in connection with Mr. Shepard, hired a room in the Tribune building. He could not get Mr. Stetson to leave, so he engaged another room, and began to draw how the work should be done. Then Mr. Shafer went on and completed it. He worked hard for seven months, and then waited a long time for Mr. Stetson to return to his room. Finally, at a call from members of the Council, he sent in his report.

He asserted that Mr. Shepard was anxious for the honor of codifying the laws, but did not care to do it.

Mr. Stetson, in his report, said he was not satisfied with Mr. Shepard's "handsome confession," but he was.

The Rev. J. Q. Adams defended Dr. Fulton. "The court-room," said he, "gave him fifteen minutes in which he could talk when he pleased." (Cries of "Oh! oh!")

The Chairman—"Suppose he wanted to speak?"

The Rev. Dr. Henry Miller, of Greenwich, made a concession by saying, "I am in favor of the committee."

Dr. Fulton is a troubler. We have kept him for years, and have handed him to our laps until—"

"I want a full and hearty confession from Dr. Fulton, or I don't want him back!"

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Mr. Stetson grew very excited, said his name in Mr. Fulton's report, and then added, "I am a plain man."

Mr. Stetson had a short reply, stating that he would not condescend to the impertinence of his associate.

Then the committee adjourned.

STRENGTH OF THE BROOKLYN BRIDGE.

The sub-committee appointed by the Assembly Committee on Commerce to take testimony in regard to the East River Bridge continued its hearing yesterday. The original plan of the bridge, a copy of the one sent to the War Department, was shown. The evidence related mainly to the obstruction to the navigation of the river, and to the strength and safety of the bridge. At the conclusion of the hearing the committee adjourned to one week from to-day.

Richard R. Harding, who lives on the top floor at No. 23 Thompson-st., is in a helpless condition, owing to paralysis. They are in great need of the necessities of life.

The second annual assault-at-arms of the New-York Athletic Club will be held at Booth's Theatre on Friday and Saturday evenings of this week. The competition will comprise wrestling for the amateur championship, boxing and sparring.

James Dick, the man who was caught by the last rope of a train on the Hudson River Railroad last week and dragged for two blocks behind the train, is now out of danger. Dick once before had his skull fractured, but this is a compound fracture.

The globose fight of Michael Cohen and "spring Bill" Dick, arranged to take place in Clarendon Hall, Saturday evening, was presented by the entrepreneur as a "frolic." The combatants were the two clerks of the Mutual Life Assurance Company, who had been engaged in a fierce contest for about a week.

Philip B. Lovell, a tinsmith by trade, testified that from the measurement of the masts of a large number of ships he was of the opinion that the Brooklyn Bridge must have been built under the bridge at any point at which it stood 134 feet above the water at high tide. The average variation of the tides was about 2 feet, so high-tide would not be over 136 feet.

John L. Clegg, a carpenter, said he had never seen a vessel of 1,000 tons pass under the bridge at any point within five miles. He had found Mr. Wells a careful and prudent business man. He had found Mr. Wells a careful and prudent business man. They had both dealt in the same stocks; the witness had frequently taken advice from Mr. Wells, and found him to be a wise and well-informed man.

Edward S. Hall, alias "Pins," was arraigned at the Jefferson Market Police Court yesterday. He is sold to be a notorious bond-fugitive, and well known to the detectives all over this State. For the last three months they have been looking for him on a charge of forging bonds to the amount of \$30,000 in Green County, N.Y. He was arrested yesterday afternoon in Green Bay, near Houston. He will be tried on Feb. 21.

Thomas C. Doremus, a well-known merchant, placed \$1,500 in the hands of the Children's Aid Society for the purpose of buying a home for the widow of Mr. Wells, and the sum was given to her.

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